

**WEEKLY REPORT**  
**Region 9**  
**Environmental Protection Agency**  
**Week of October 28, 2016**  
**Superfund Division**

**Highlight of Past Week**

**Del Amo/Montrose - Vapor Intrusion and Community Involvement (Los Angeles County, CA):** Last week, Yolanda Sanchez traveled to LA to partner with Yariisa Martinez to discuss the indoor air sampling results with residents, possible indoor sources of volatile organic compounds, and [healthy home practices](#) that could help eliminate the accumulation of chemicals in their homes. This past spring, EPA re-sampled the indoor air of 13 homes that participated in the 2015 indoor air investigation. The results were similar to the 2015 investigation, and there are no urgent health risks associated with vapor intrusion in the homes. Sanchez also visited the Information Repository at the Torrance Library and spoke with the lead librarian. In addition, Sanchez and Martinez participated in the Carson Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) event on October 15 and handed out site overview brochures to nearly 300 households that participated. (Contact: Yolanda Sanchez, x2-3880 and Yariisa Martinez, x4-1806)



**Student Field Trip at Navajo Nation Cleanup Sites (Ambrosia Lake, N.M.):** On October 14, EPA hosted a field trip in Ambrosia Lake for students at Navajo Technical University and University of New Mexico. The tour was provided by EPA Region 9, EPA Region 6, and Navajo Abandoned Mine Lands Program. The objective was to provide the historical background of uranium contamination, visit an abandoned uranium mine, learn about the cleanup process, and

provide a unique training opportunity to learn about radiation equipment. The aim is to further inform and engage students of uranium contamination issues and provide details to interested students of necessary steps for a career path with this work. (Contact: Elena Neibaur, x2-3275)



**Triple Site (Sunnyvale, CA):** This week we finalized an update letter for San Miguel Elementary School, where we are overseeing the installation of four preemptive mitigation systems to address potential unacceptable TCE vapor intrusion. We will drop off hard copies of the letter (in English and Spanish) later this week for distribution to students and staff. Next week we have a meeting scheduled with representatives from the city of Sunnyvale. The purpose of the meeting will be to provide an update on the ongoing indoor air evaluations and mitigation work and begin to discuss procedures for handling preemptive mitigation at new buildings and structures undergoing significant modification over the plume. (Contact: Melanie Morash, x2-3050 or Alejandro Diaz, x2-3242)

**Edwards AFB:** EPA submitted comments this week on the Feasibility Study for the groundwater cleanup at Site 25 (Main Base). This 1.5 mile long TCE plume has been the subject of a year-long disagreement over taking an early action to partially control contaminant spread. The FS screened out all options with active source control, with Technical impracticability as the primary approach. Our comments centered on including a Remedial Action Objective to reduce mass and transport of the source and high concentration portions of the plume, consistent with EPA's TI guidance. Site 25 has none of the accessibility problems as at the Air Force Research Lab Operable Units. The State has been considering rejection of the FS, although they have delayed submittal of their comments. (Contact: Kevin Mayer, x2-3176)

**Oahu Sugar (at Pearl Harbor): Enforcement (b) (7) (A)**

**Attorney Client (b) 5**

(Contact: Christopher Lichens, x2-3149)

**Back Up Region Exercise 'Quicksilver Slip':** On October 26, Regions 8, 9 and 10 participated in a full scale exercise in San Francisco. The scenario was a mercury release in mass transit systems that ultimately impacted four counties - Marin, Alameda, San Francisco and San Mateo. Approximately 45 people participated in the exercise, including OSCs, the Environmental Response Team - West, Incident Management Team members from all three regions and contractors. Activity was centered around two venues - the equipment management facility on Harrison Street, where operational teams deployed and the Regional Emergency Operations Center, that doubled as an Incident Command Post and the REOC. Command and General Staff ICS positions were staffed with the exception of logistics and finance. The exercise was quite realistic and a good learning experience for all. A special shout out goes to our exercise planners - chiefly, Donn Zuroski, Michelle Rogow and Pete Guria and to OEM for providing the funding to support this important work. (Contact: Dan Meer, x2-3132)

### **Significant Items for Next Week**

**Navajo Area Uranium Mines – Community Economic Development Outreach/Forum:** Next week the Small Business Development Department of the Navajo Nation Division of Economic Development is providing three outreach forums throughout the Navajo Nation (Cameron, Monument Valley, and Shiprock). The forums are intended to educate and inform the business community on growing and starting a business through contracts (federal, state, Navajo Nation, Corporations). Region 9 has been invited to participate and provide information on EPA federal contract opportunities to include the Navajo area uranium mines cleanup. Other invited participants will include SBA from Arizona to provide information on certifications, registrations, and other information on how to do business with the Federal Government. These outreach events were a result of the USEPA/Navajo Nation Acquisition Strategy team meeting on October 19. (Contact: Chip Poalinelli, x2-3390 or Autumn Roe, x2-3933)



**Brownfields Job Training Graduations (Richmond and S.F. Bayview Hunters Point, CA):** EPA staff will speak at two Brownfields Job Training graduations on October 28, one for RichmondBUILD in Richmond and the other for Hunters Point Family in Bayview Hunters Point. Through this program students participate in over 360 hours of training focused primarily on hazardous waste management and safety. Graduates typically go on to work for local unions and private firms and work on projects such as the Point Molate clean-up, EPA-funded Brownfield site clean-up in San Pablo, a solar farm in Pittsburg, CA and the Candlestick Point redevelopment project. (Contact: Nova Blazej, x2-3846)

### **Press Stories, Significant Policy, Regulatory, or Legal Actions (2-3 weeks out)**

### **Grant Announcements**

### **Legislative Engagement**

### **Travel, Training, Public/National Meetings, and Speaking Engagements**

### **30-60 Day Outlook**

**Outreach with Los Angeles County Department of Public Health:** On November 16, Sophia Serda, Dan Stralka and Dan Meer are scheduled to meet with staff from the LA County Department of Public Health, in the Southern California Field Office, to exchange information on environmental risk assessment and the establishment of regional screening levels and cleanup levels for environmental cleanups. **Enforcement (b) (7) (A)**

## **Enforcement (b) (7) (A)**

. We believe that an exchange of information with LA County DPH staff people will help us when our respective agencies work together on cleanups in the future.  
(Contact: Dan Meer, x2-3132)

## **Other Information**

**Division Director Schedule:** Internal Personnel (b) (2)

## **Internal to Region 9**

## **Confidential Information**